

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending. Claims 1, 10, 17 and 23 have been amended. No new material has been added. Claims 1, 10, 17 and 23 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hanan, USPN: 6,898,730 (hereinafter: Hanan). (Final Office Action, Page 2). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Anticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under consideration. *W.L. Gore & Assocs. v. Garlock*, 721 F.2d 1540, 220 USPQ 303 (Fed. Cir. 1983), *cert. denied*, 469 U.S. 851 (1984). Further, “anticipation requires the presence in a single prior art reference disclosure of each and every element of the claimed invention, arranged as in the claim.” *Lindemann Maschinenfabrik GmbH v. American Hoist & Derrick Co.*, 730 F.2d 1452, 221 USPQ 481, 485 (Fed. Cir. 1984) (citing *Connell v. Sears, Roebuck & Co.*, 722 F.2d 1542, 220 USPQ 193 (Fed. Cir. 1983)) (emphasis added).

Independent claims 1, 10, 17 and 23 recite elements that have not been disclosed, taught or suggested by Hanan. For example, claims 1, 10, 17 and 23 each generally recite:

“the first idle regenerator being configured for receiving and transmitting signals to the first serial master device via a first input/output (I/O) connection,... the second idle regenerator being configured for receiving and transmitting signals to the second serial master device via a second input/output (I/O) connection.”

It is contended that Hanan does not teach the above-referenced elements.

In the present application, an apparatus for dual porting a serial disk drive is described which includes a first idle regenerator connected to a first master serial device

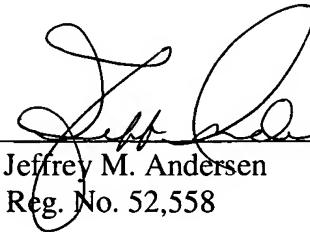
via a first input/output (I/O) connection. (Present Application, Page 7, Paragraph 0026). Further, the first idle regenerator of the present invention is configured for receiving and transmitting signals to the first serial master device via the first input/output (I/O) connection. (Present Application, Page 7, Paragraph 0026). The Patent Office equates the first bus connection (110) of Hanan to the first idle regenerator of the present invention. (Final Office Action, Page 2). The Patent Office further equates disk drive host interface (106) of Hanan to the first serial master device of the present invention. (Final Office Action, Page 2). However, nowhere does the Patent Office equate anything in Hanan with the first input/output connection of the present invention. Therefore, Applicants contend that Hanan does not teach an apparatus having a first idle regenerator connected to a first serial master device via a first input/output connection as claimed in the present invention.

Based on the above rationale, it is contended that Hanan does not teach the above-referenced elements of claims 1, 10, 17 and 23 of the present application. Under *Lindemann*, a *prima facie* case of anticipation has not been established for claims 1, 10, 17 and 23 of the present application. Thus, independent claims 1, 10, 17 and 23 should be allowed. Further, dependent claims 2-9 (which depend on independent claim 1), dependent claims 11-16 (which depend on independent claim 10), dependent claims 18-22 (which depend on independent claim 17), and dependent claims 24-26 (which depend on independent claim 23 should also be allowed.

CONCLUSION

In light of the forgoing amendments and arguments, reconsideration of the claims is hereby requested, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of
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